

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached Replacement Sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1 and 2. More specifically, FIG. 1 has been amended to substitute the handwritten reference numbers with typed reference numbers. FIG. 2 has been amended to remove the shading of the originally submitted figures to more clearly illustrate the structures of the illustrated embodiment.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 to recite that lubrication occurs when pressure in the hydraulic circuit drops relative to a previously sufficiently high pressure level.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicants have amended FIG. 1 to substitute the handwritten reference numbers with typed reference numbers.

Applicants have amended FIG. 2 to remove the shading of the originally submitted figures such that the structures of the disclosed embodiment are more clearly illustrated.

In view thereof, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 USC § 102(b)

Claims 1, 5-8, and 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi (JP 2000074292 A). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection inasmuch as it may apply to the claims as amended

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14 to recite that the assembly is configured for lubricating the lubrication point when the pressure in the hydraulic circuit drops relative to a previously sufficiently high pressure level (pressure in the hydraulic circuit and hydraulic cylinder being high when in the extended position/under a load and lower when retracted/not under a load).

Applicants respectfully submit that Takahashi does not disclose such feature and that the invention disclosed by Takahashi is contrary to claims 1 and 14. Takahashi discloses lubricating when the hydraulic pressure is relatively high and a hydraulic cylinder extended/under a load. (See FIG. 10 illustrating lubrication occurring under operation of the hydraulic pump/high hydraulic pressure; See also paragraphs [0082-0094] describing lubrication when hydraulic oil is being pumped by the hydraulic pump; See also paragraph [0052] reciting, "...when the load concerning a work device 7 is large and the amount of frictions of the pin bond material 14 increases, more grease can be greased [applied]").

Consequently, because Takahashi fails to disclose each and every element of claims 1 and 14, as arranged, claims 1 and 14, and those claims depending therefrom, are not anticipated by Takahashi.

In view thereof, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.



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Atty. Ref.: 7589.177.PCUS00

CONCLUSION

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, Order No. 7589.177.PCUS00.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix

This Appendix contains 2 Replacement Drawing Sheets.